Office Building has been entrusted to C.P.W.D. The facility of allotment of General Pool Accommodation to officers and staff by the Estate Office will be discontinued after the office is fully shifted to NOIDA.

Steps to make Full use of Inland Water Transport System

7894. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have urged the State Governments to create industrial belts near major rivers of the country so that freight could be carried by inland water transport system;

(b) if so, whether on the direction of the Central Government any State Government have set up industrial belts near major rivers;

(c) whether the inland water transport system is diminishing day by day; and

(d) if not, what concrete steps Government propose to take to make full use of inland water transport system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The question of advising the State Governments to create industrial belts near major rivers of the country is being examined.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As per policy of the Government of India, major waterways are to be de'veloped as National Waterways with adequate facilites such as channel marking, navigation facilities, terminals, etc., in a phased manner. There are incentive schemes also to attract private Inland Water Transport operators.

Construction of a Deep Water Port at Kakinada

7895. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a deep water port would be constructed at kakinada with Rs. 300 Crore assistance from Asian Development Bank;

(h) if so, what is the total aid the ADB has agreed to provide;

(c) by when the port is likely to be completed;

(d) to what extent the construction of the port would facilitate the handling of cargo; and

(e) by when the port is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A deep water port is under construction at Kakinada for which a loan assistance of US$ 77.9 million is being provided by Asian Development Bank.

(c) The project is expected to be completed by August, 1996.

(d) On completion of the Project, the Port is expected to handle an additional quantity of 3 million tonnes of cargo per annum.

(e) The new port facilities are likely to be commissioned on completion of the Project by August, 1996.

बिहार के कुछ क्षेत्रों में फेरी सेवाओं का शुरू किया जाना

7896. श्री जनार्दन यादव: क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार बिहार में बरारी और महादेवपुर घाट, कहलगांव और काठगांव के बीच और साहिबगंज और मनिहारी के बीच फेरी सेवा आरम्भ करने का विचार रखती है।

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब तक; और